

# **Barony of Ruantallan**

## **Minutes of the July 22 Curia Meeting**

### **Attendees:**

Paul McCulloch	Georgina Tarrant	Wendy Regular
Preston McIntosh	Joan Chiasson	Kevin Golemic
Nicole Chaffey	Tina Oliver	Mike Burnett
Susan Richter	Roberta Hilton	
Donna McKay	Jolina Worden	Natasha McKillop
Corinne Lewandowski	Karen Worden	Tim Smith
Edwina McCulloch	Brenda Hoddinott	Vanessa McKillop
Nancy Irwin	John Percy	Elizabeth Crux
Eric Mason	Alastair Simpson	George Cochrane

The Meeting was opened by the Seneschal at 1:25 pm

### **Changes to the Previous Minutes**

- Under Herald's Report Chronicler in the last paragraph should read Herald.
- Under A&S Report the spelling of Readfah Holm was amended.
- Under Seneschal's Report the last word of the last paragraph should read posting, not bid.
- Under New Business the spelling of Joan Chiasson's name was amended.
- Under Event Bids the mover of the motion to establish a regular event to host the Baronial Rapier championship was Robbie Hilton, not Alastair Simpson.

The unseconded motion under Event Reports and Budgets was moved to be discussed under the Treasurer's report for the current meeting.

Pavilion Motion under Event Reports: This motion was incorrectly listed as moved by a member of the populace. Discussion ensued and the item was struck from the record and the issue moved to discussion under Old Business.

Susan Richter noted that she had not yet received the January 4, 2007 minutes. Paul MacCulloch noted they were on the Yahoo site.

The Minutes were approved with the above changes.

## **Officer's Reports**

### **Seneschal's Report**

Paul reported that a number of new issues had come up in the last month. He had received directives from Kingdom regarding changes to the Baronial SOP's and Constitution; a major overhaul is required, as per instructions from the Kingdom Seneschal. More detail is discussed under New Business.

Paul had also been directed by Kingdom that effective immediately the role of the Coronet must be changed. The Baron and Baroness collectively will have one vote in Curia. They will also have power of veto, which makes their role more significant. Paul was still trying to get clarification from Kingdom on finer points. The changed policy will shortly be incorporated in EK Law, as our previous rules for the Baron and Baroness are exceptional in the East Kingdom.

Paul also noted that our financial records were being audited by Kingdom and that the books would be taken to Pennsic to be examined by the Kingdom Exchequer. Kevin Golemic as incoming treasurer would be in charge of this task.

Paul stated that everything we do as a Curia must be as transparent as possible, and must try to involve the populace as much as possible. The Barony had come extremely close to dissolution.

### **Coronet Report**

Preston McIntosh reported for the coronet that they were a month into their role and had been attending archery practice and fighter practice in Seashire. They would also have the chance to meet with YYG members at the upcoming event Small Bransle in YYG. They would also be attending Coronation in Bakhail on September 29.

Lachlan reported that they would be asking each Canton to provide a member of retinue for a six month period.

Their Excellencies had received all Baronial regalia on the official list except for a 'hinged box'. Preston and Nicole to email Esperanza to find out what it might look like. They reported that they would be asking Lyanna and Esperanza for the significance of many items of Regalia, and would develop a list giving history of significant items.

### **Herald's Report**

Joan Chiasson reported that she has finished the OP list and that it was in a sortable Excel file. She was working on a HTML page with inner links to awards received, downloadable from the East Kingdom site. She will sent the completed work to Paul to link to the Baronial Arms List.

The Regalia list is complete. The only things not listed are presentation pillows received after the inventory was completed. It was noted that it should be the responsibility of the Herald and Exchequer to check over the Regalia once per reign. Joan noted that the tankards, goblets and pitcher could only hold water, and a way of resealing them should be sought. Also plated given by Lord Varenko could not take hot water for a while.

Everyone agreed that having the OP on the Baronial Arms List would be a great thing. Susan Richter noted that the Domesday Book was out of date and wondered whether it could be linked up to these sites.

**Knight Marshal Report** moved forward as Mike Burnett was not yet present.

### **Exchequer Report**

Robbie had emailed a report to Curia members. She noted that we owe Ernie Rink, Karen Worden and Kingdom (NMS Surcharge) monies associated with warcamp.

Joan Chiasson is still on the bank account but will be doing the necessary paperwork shortly.

Robbie has sent approval for Percival to take the financial records to Pennsic to be presented to the Kingdom Exchequer. Kingdom has been making enquiries about old missing paperwork dating to previous exchequers tenures. They have asked that the books stay in her hands until the old issues are resolved. Kevin will take over the current year. The names on the bank account will stay as they are until Kingdom gives permission. There was some discussion about who the signing officers should be, and it was noted that papers had to be sent Freya as Regional Exchequer and it could take at least two weeks to process.

Nicole Chaffey handed over a receipt for \$34.72 from Lady Anneke for Baronial Archery expenses. Paul noted that this expense was approved at the last meeting, being for new Baronial archery targets.

Some questions were raised about the exchequer report. It was asked whether Viscount Edward had decided where the monies being held for Wolfsgate should go after the dissolution of the Canton. Robbie noted that she understood it was Wolfsgate's decision. Lachlan to discuss with Kingdom, Wynfrith to contact Colin MacKenzie. Wynfrith suggested Master Aetheric as Regional Exchequer be kept updated.

Tina Oliver noted that as Chatelaine she had had a number of queries from people in the Valley. Ways to get them together were discussed.

Robbie presented a list of records missing from her files (and requested by Kingdom), and noted the records were in a shambles for various reasons. She would like to see event revenue increased so that we have a working capital of \$2500; we are \$900 short of that right now. Paul agreed with her.

Susan noted that she had asked last Curia meeting about separate accounts for Cook's Guild etc. Robbie noted that savings accounts charged fees and that

sometimes the monies being held for Wolfsgate etc. were also being used to cover cashflow.

Paul noted that we need to plan for expenditures and look at the possibility of increasing our income somewhat. Event bids should have a standard process as to what cut-off points are and should never leave us in the position of losing money even if a few people don't turn up. Our status as a non-profit group does not prevent us from making money on events and we need to have some income to cover outgoing expenses. Robbie noted the event bid process needs to be looked at.

Isobel proposed this be moved to New Business. Wynfrith thanked Robbie for her tenacity.

Joan noted that she was willing to stay on as signing officer to the bank account for a couple more weeks. The Seneschal signature would need to be replaced. Robbie noted we can't make changes to signatories without Freya's signature and that outstanding bills would have to be taken care of.

### **Chronicler's Report**

No report due to the resignation of Mike Reid.

### **A&S Report**

Georgina Tarrant reported that an A&S Competition was held in Ynys Y Gwead in conjunction with the Regional Rapier Championship. The competition was won by Lady Ysemay for nalbinding.

No A&S activities were held at the recent warcamp on the Canada Day weekend. If in future a site was used that had wet weather shelter (barn, hall?) a display and/or classes could be added to the schedule. This seems currently to be the best time to schedule Baronial A&S activities, as all the Cantons are quite active through the rest of the year, and this event sees the best turnout of citizens and visitors.

Four citizens of Ruantallan recently took part in the A&S display at GNE war – Nicholas of Losthaven, Janet Kempe, Lachlan Macantoisich and Guthfrith Yrlingson.

Georgina is currently attempting to come up with ideas for Baronial A&S activities that will not compete with Canton events, the Dabblers' Guild and ECU's. If anyone has any ideas please contact her.

Preston suggested a Baronial A&S getaway, maybe at the Truro site used before.

### **Chatelaine Report**

Tina Oliver reported that the Family Days demo held by the Military Club was a success and a few contacts had been formed. There had been a demo in Truro

but not enough people could make a proposed demo in Wolfville. It would have been great publicity and maybe could take place another time.

Tina had received a few queries and there had been new people at Fight Practice. The suggestion was made that at the Seashire practice on Sundays people could show up in garb to attract more interest. Tina noted she had business cards if anyone wanted them. At the next meeting she would have to order new ones.

### **Website Report**

Susan reported that a full report was on the yahoo site. Her term as Web Minister was up, and the website was up to date. In April there had been 1700 visitors to our site, in May 1558 and in June 1463. The top sections were Photos, Events, Resources, Guilds and Groups and Map.

(Mike Burnett arrived at the meeting)

As decided in October 2006 Susan had backed up old records on CD and would give them to the historian; she had been in contact with Vera.

Susan reported that the feedback forms were being delivered now to the Yahoo group, and although some had been delayed none were lost.

Susan noted that she would be handing everything over to the new Web Minister and they were free to create a new site, but that she was willing to remain system administrator if requested by the new Web Minister. The New Minister could also keep her design for the website but was requested in that case to keep accreditation clause.

### **Knight Marshal's Report**

Mike Burnett reported that there had been a lot of discussion over the former Seashire practice and the change in its status to unsanctioned practice. Greg Murray's correspondence had been sent to Kingdom Seneschal. Under EK Law no authorizations etc. could take place at this practice while it remains unofficial.

## **Canton Reports**

### **Seashire Report**

Wendy Regular reported that the estimated population of Seashire was approximately 70 members and 75 non-members. The current bank balance was \$1840.30. They have new officers; Gail Heinz-Milne was the new Exchequer and Cornelia was the new Knight Marshal. There was no new Herald but it was not a required position.

Seashire had held a 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary event with 116 attendees and the new champion is Lord William Langton. Seashire is also planning Sven the Gardner in November, Herne the Hunter in December, and is holding weekly archery

practices and irregular fight practices on the Halifax Commons. They are planning a Populace Meeting in September.

### **Distant Shore**

Paul reported on behalf of the Seneschal of Distant Shore. They had had officer changes; Tasiia is now A&S Minister, Libby is Chatelaine. It was noted that Eadwynn had now been Exchequer for ten years.

They had held a Tavern event hosting BRC and a demo in Truro that went well. There was about \$1400 in the bank.

### **YYG**

Paul reported on behalf of the Seneschal of YYG. They have \$1200 in the bank and have been holding regular potluck feasts. They will be hosting Small Bransle on the Labour Day weekend.

## **Election of Officers**

### **Herald**

Joan noted her position officially ended on September 30<sup>th</sup>. It was decided to hold the vote now, which would become effective October 1<sup>st</sup>.

Dunstable (George Cochrane) and Ruadhan (Cliff) both offered for the position. After a brief discussion and secret ballot Dunstable was announced as Herald.

Joan Chiasson thanked both candidates. The Baron and Baroness to talk to Ruadhan regarding the Court Herald position.

### **Knight Marshal**

There was only one candidate for Knight Marshal, Guthfrith (Alastair Simpson). He was elected as Knight Marshal.

### **Exchequer**

As mentioned under Exchequer report Robbie had been requested not to step down as Exchequer until outstanding matters had been cleared up with Kingdom. A vote was held to determine the new Exchequer, pending Kingdom permission.

There was only one candidate for Exchequer, Percival (Kevin Golemic). He was elected as Exchequer.

### **Chronicler**

Elise (Corinne Lewandowski) and Zelina (Karen Worden) both offered for the position. Both candidates were given opportunity to speak; Elise distributed a prototype for the newsletter.

After a brief discussion and secret ballot Elise was announced as Chronicler.

### **Minister of the Lists**

There was only one candidate for Minister of the Lists, Tasiia (Natasha McKillop). She was elected as Minister of the Lists.

### **Web Minister**

Gilbert (Eric Mason) and Danielle (Shirley) both offered for the position. Gilbert talked briefly about his candidacy and Tina Oliver spoke on behalf of Danielle. Some discussion ensued about their respective skills and those required for the position. It was noted that since Danielle was not present it was difficult to determine if she had the necessary skill-set.

After a secret ballot Gilbert was announced as Web Minister.

### **Company Captain of Archers**

There was only one candidate for Company Captain of Archers, Eadwynn (Edwina MacCulloch). She was elected as Company Captain of Archers.

## **Old Business**

### **Regalia**

This issue had been dealt with previously in the meeting.

### **Event Reports and Budgeting**

There was discussion about a budget for 2008. Robbie and Kevin to put a budget together, looking at Robbie's spreadsheets from previous years. It was suggested that we look at putting a yearly budget in the SOP's.

### **Domesday Book**

Discussed under Herald's Report – to be replaced by OP list etc.

### **Warcamp Event Report**

Karen Worden reported that over 200 people attended. She received 127 cancellations in the week prior to the event, and a profit of \$390 was made.

Feedback ideas included a runner for troll, better scheduling and attention to toilet paper replacement. Overall feedback was positive. No incidents required reporting.

### **Other Old Business**

Pavilion Debate – this was tabled for future discussion.

## **New Business**

### **Constitution and SOP's**

Paul presented the letter from Viscount Edward regarding Kingdom's concerns over the Baronial SOP's. Edward declared some SOP's null and void, where they

conflicted with Kingdom Law and Society Law. Other areas of concern were housekeeping issues within the Barony.

Paul proposed that it needs to be revised and that we form a committee to oversee changes. Input would be required from everybody. Paul to highlight required changes, Curia to review, then the committee would tabulate changes. Proposed changes would then have to go to Master Aetheric and up the chain of command.

**Motion:** *To form a committee of 4 to review and recommend revisions to the Baronial Constitution and SOP's ensuring EK and Society Law aren't violated. The chair of the committee will assign committee members as appropriate. Moved by Robbie, seconded by Edwina. Motion carried unanimously.*

Paul MacCulloch was selected as chair. Other members would be the Coronet, Georgina Tarrant and Tina Oliver.

### **Fight Practice at the MFRC**

This issue is being worked on by Knight Marshal, Regional Knight Marshal and Kingdom. Tina noted that Greg Murray is President of the Military Club and speaks for them. Mike noted that various levels in the Chain of Command had corresponded with Greg via email. Discussion was tabled to the next meeting.

### **Foxworthy Site**

Paul noted that Ernie Rink had closed SCA access to the site and we must abide by that. Any concerns individuals might have regarding property etc. should be taken directly to Ernie.

Guthfrith proposed a thank you for Ernie for making the site available and Paul agreed. Coronet to undertake this.

It was noted that the closing of the site was having an impact on archery.

Elise noted that Fox Mountain may be available for Warcamp and we could come up with our own requirements/undertakings in writing. It was decided this would be incorporated into an autocrat's event bid.

### **Bid for BIA**

Jolina brought forward a bid for BIA. She would be autocrat, Tina would be head cook. The date would be October 20<sup>th</sup>. The break even point was 50 people, \$15 full/\$10 child/\$55 family onboard, \$9 full/\$7 child/\$25 family offboard. NMS will apply and the event will feature the Baronial Rattan Championship. There would also be A&S, dancing, fencing as requested. No pets.

Tina noted the price could be adjusted down if the hall price allows. The Marshal in Charge would be Nick Hue.

There was discussion regarding the profit margin, attendance levels and break even points. Elise brought up the subject of decorations etc. and Brianna brought up advertising the event.

**Motion:** *To accept the event bid as presented. Moved by Georgina Tarrant, Seconded by Joan Chiasson. Passed unanimously.*

Robbie asked for proof of membership as a formality.

### **March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2008 Bid**

Karen Worden presented an Event Bid for an ECU on the Easter long weekend, 2008. To be held at the MFRC under a rental agreement, with back-up site in Pictou. Participants would donate toys to be donated to the Salvation Army. The event would be published in Pikestaff, Head Cook would be Kelly Grant.

There was general discussion regarding the site. It was suggested that the back-up site may in fact be better for the event; more central, not Halifax, better facilities, almost free. It was agreed to move the site to Pictou High School. Onboard fees \$15, Offboard \$7.

**Motion:** *To accept the event bid with the site amended to Pictou High School and cost to \$15/\$7. Moved by Georgina Tarrant, Seconded by Wendy Regular. Passed unanimously.*

### **Other**

Preston noted his concern that files held by the Baronial Historian were in an old format. An inventory and data recovery to be done. Lachlan to contact Vera initially.

Preston also noted that the Baronial war banner would be going to Pennsic with Elise and it would be carried by all Ruantallaners going.

**Motion:** *To adjourn the meeting at 4:45 pm. Moved Robbie Hilton, seconded by Wendy Regular. Passed unanimously.*